department with HTV test etc., Blood bank, Ultra-Sonography, Upper G.L. Endoscopy & X-Ray facilities.

(II) 50 beds have been added in Central Hospital, IB Valley in 1995 raising the number of total beds to 150.

(III) One General Nursing & Midwifery Training School, in collaboration with Orissa Govt. has been started from July 1996 with 30 students per year.

(IV) Four new dispensaries have been commissioned in 1994-95 and made functional. These are as under:

(A) Samleswari Dispensary, IB Valley Area.

(B) Budhijam Dispensary, orient Area.

(C) Dispensary at Basumunara Area.

(D) Dispensary at MCL Office, Bhubaneswar.

(V) One air-conditioned mobile clinic van has been provided at Talcher field during 1994-95, with facilities having three distinct departments and provisions of O.T., ICU-bed and Diagnostic facilities.

(VI) One health Club was inaugurated on 22.12.96 at Jagruti Vihar, MCL Hq., Burla.

(VII) School Health Programme. Diagnostic camps including detection of night blindedness, Avitaminosis and other common diseases and immunisation.

(VIII) Immunisation:

Year	DPT	OPV	BCG	MEASELS	MMR	HEPATITIS	PULSEPOLI
95-95	2.070	2,070	963	386	305	—	—
95-96	2,321	2,326	1,081	479	310	—	3,247
96-97	4,074	4,074	1,702	1,065	195	145	7,715

(IX) Physically handicapped camps & Deafness camps were organised at IB Valley from 15th August, 96 in three phases. 104 persons are selected for orthodesis, tricycles given to 47 persons, wheel chairs given to 22 persons and 44 persons were given surgical treatment. 259 persons were given hearing aids.

Losses in Collieries/units of BCCL

475. SHRI GYAN RANJAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of collieries/units in BCCL which are running into losses; and

(b) what are the reasons for their losses and what action is being taken to convert them into profit making units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) 76 collieries in Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL), of which 73 are underground and 3 opencast, are operated at a loss at present.

(b) The reasons for losses in these collieries are given below:

(i) Adverse geo-mining conditions leading to low productivity in the mines.

(ii) Heavily built up area all around, which affects operations and also the capacity utilisation of equipments.

(iii) Surplus manpower leading to high wage cost.

(iv) BCCL was all along under administered price regime wherein the sale price was far too low compared to the cost of production. De-regulation of pricing of some categories of coal

from 1.4.96 has also not been able to correct the aberration fully.

(v) Non-remunerative price of washed coal reimbursed by SAIL which resulted in loss in washery operation also.

(vi) A number of capital intensive project taken up in the past did not succeed which resulted in poor capital productivity.

(vii) Aberration in capital structure of the company over the years as a result of which share capital of the company has become far too low in comparison to the loan capital. This results in high cost on account of interest.

Following action is being taken by BCCL to improve the financial position of the company:—

(i) Increasing capacity utilisation of the mine.

(ii) Rationalisation and redeployment of manpower for gainful deployment.

(iii) Improvement in quality of washed coal by improving the quality of raw coal feed to the washeries and optimising washery operations.

(iv) Special drive has been taken to bring down cost on overtime and sunday deployment and effect reduction in other items of controllable cost etc.

(v) Introduction of cash and carry system to curb increase in sales outstanding including taking up of special drive for liquidating old outstanding dues.

Filling up of vacant posts of Chairman-cum-Managing Directors

476. SHRI GYAN RANJAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some interviews were recently conducted for filling up the posts of Chairman-cum-Managing Directors of the subsidiary companies of Coal India Ltd.;

(b) if so, the number of candidates called for interview;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Public Enterprises Selection Board stipulates that a candidates should have a minimum of two years of service at the time of being interviewed; and

(d) if so, how many candidates who had less than two years of service were interviewed and reasons for violating the established norms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI *KANTI SINGH*): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 21 candidates were called for the interview.

(c) As per extant procedure of the Public Enterprises Selection Board, candidates to be considered for a full time board level post in a Central Public Enterprise should not be above 56 years of age on the date of circulation of the vacancy.

(d) None.

Power purchase agreement between *Hinduja* and Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board

477. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the power purchase agreement between the Hinduja company and the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board;

(b) whether Government have asked the Coal India Ltd. to supply the required coal to Hinduja plant to be set up in Vizag; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) So far, M/s. Hinduja National Power Corporation Limited and Andhra Pradesh Electricity